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To Whom it May Concern,

I do not consent to this bill being introduced, and believe it is sadly a gross invasion of our privacy, and fundamental human rights and freedom of speech and expression.

In any democracy, debates are healthy and we need to have the ability to debate contentious subjects or issues. We need everyone's point of view and should maintain some decency and integrity. There are countless examples of medical beliefs that were long held, and proven wrong with history. Without the ability to expose the wrongs and debate things safely, it will be a living hell for people to live under draconian threats, coercion, and ill informed government or medical misinformation from career public servants who are not even qualified practicing Doctors or decisions based on incorrect modelling from consultants.

If this is no longer allowed and our opinions are not able to be expressed, then it is now no longer a democracy. This takes away our rights of "Freedom of Speech". The government of the day will then have complete and utter control, which is more in line with dictatorships or communism. We should be learning from World War II and regimes since, and the many wrongs that were committed by various governments, and history has shown them to be wrong.

There are examples in history where Doctors thought wrongly and society proved the beliefs wrong, examples being The thalidomide catastrophe, lobotomy (Dr Freeman's 'icepick lobotomies'), Endometriosis not being recognised (blaming mental state when it was a real disease that requires surgery); Cigarettes as a cure for asthma; Soothing Syrup was a popular remedy for babies experiencing anything from teething to diarrhea with a heavy percentage of alcohol and morphine; Another treatment that was believed to be a cure for asthma was chloroform. This article claims that one treatment with chloroform completely relieved all symptoms of asthma. This belief would eventually result in the deaths of patients who had overdosed during an asthma attack. Many believed that allergy symptoms caused by pollen (also known as hay fever) could be alleviated with the application of cocaine, as described in this article here. This was discovered to not be the case. Dr. George Frederick Laidlaw (a recognized leading pathologist of the homeopathic school in New York) is quoted in multiple articles saying, "If you can't cure it without cocaine, you'd better keep the hay fever. Tobacco smoke enemas were considered a successful treatment for cholera and were recommended as an alternative remedy to opium. The exact procedure varied, and in some instances a pint of boiling, tobacco-infused water was administered into the intestines. It was

even reported that “hundreds of lives might have been spared by the tobacco enema.” The Vioxx scandal- Vioxx was a painkiller approved for use by the FDA in 1999; it led to the death of 60,000 people in the US; War on dietary fat - In a recent about-face on fat, the US dietary guidelines advisory committee has removed its previous recommendations against fat and cholesterol consumption in its most recent report. Electric Shock Treatments were common for variety of illnesses, but history has proven it to be barbaric and ill informed.

For many years, the tobacco companies pushed their product and it was supported by doctors. Now we have warnings that smoking can indeed cause cancer. Hence if the tobacco company had decided to pay enough money a few years ago to a “misinformation and disinformation committee” for approval, then that warning would never have been made public. A committee did not exist then however it highlights that we should not be giving power such as this to a committee. Healthy debates must continue.

When life-saving practices are rejected

Dr Ignaz Semmelweis was a Hungarian obstetrician who theorised in 1850 that physicians transferred perpeural disease — known as childbed fever — to women in the maternity ward due to the common practice of doctors at the hospital delivering babies after conducting barehanded autopsies on diseased corpses. He came to that conclusion after observing a high rate of deaths in the hospital maternity ward in comparison with the low death rates at the clinic where babies were delivered by midwives. Semmelweis went on to implement a handwashing protocol in the maternity ward, which proved successful. It resulted in death rates declining from 18 percent to 2.2 percent.

What about the COVID vaccines. Data is showing the vaccines have injured and killed more people than all other vaccines in history put together. Open debate and investigation must be allowed, to suppress valuable data could lead to catastrophic results. We have already seen how poor the main stream media was recently with the Covid debacle. The media may have obeyed the various groups to continue to receive their advertising revenue. Many opinions about the pandemic were squashed in the early days of the pandemic. The government and medical companies told us that mass vaccination would stop the virus. This proved to be totally incorrect and in retrospect to be misinformation. The vaccination did not stop the pandemic as it did not stop transmission and it did not stop people from acquiring the virus. It failed. The adverse reports continue to increase. People were harmed and some lost their lives. The vaccine was far from safe and long term effects will be seen in years to come.

It seems that certain groups of people will be excluded from censorship under the bill. The ACMA or any organization should not be the decider/arbiter of what is mis or dis-information. The answer to scientific or political controversies is more debate not more censorship. I oppose law which can be used to increase censorship of potential minority or fringe voices (which history often shows to have been right). More decisions need to go through a referendum process.

Hence in concluding, I value “Democracy and Freedom of Speech and basic human rights”. I do not consent to the ACMA Misinformation and Disinformation Bill being introduced which will silence everyone, including professionals who have a right to express their findings.

Some medical articles below highlighting just a few incorrect beliefs held.

<https://www.trtworld.com/life/7-times-the-medical-establishment-got-it-wrong-167992>

<https://www.history.com/news/7-of-the-most-outrageous-medical-treatments-in-history>

https://www.boredpanda.com/weird-old-medical-treatments/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=organic

Regards

Concerned Citizen